

**Opportunities for collaboration with Bournemouth University's BA and MA  
qualifying social work programmes**

At BU, we are keen to engage with local stakeholders to develop mutually beneficial collaborations which benefit students and the local workforce. We currently have partnership agreements with the Bournemouth Borough Council, Borough of Poole, Dorset County Council, Wiltshire Council and a number of IVP sector organisations with this aim.

If you are interested in engaging with social work qualifying education please see the opportunities below. We will send out regular updates through the workforce development units and would encourage you to liaise with them regarding any involvement. We are also happy to discuss the opportunities available if you would like to contact us directly.

**Collaborating in lectures and seminars:**

Practitioners can engage in social work education and develop their own CPD by contributing to lectures, seminars and skills workshops for students on the qualifying programmes (leading or co-delivering). If you have a particular area of interest and are able to undertake this as part of your role, please let us know.

**Collaborating in the recruitment of social work students:**

We are required to assess applicants for social work qualifying programmes against the entry level descriptors of the Professional Capabilities Framework (PCF). Applicants shortlisted for interview undertake group and written activities in the morning with our service user and carer partnership and are then interviewed by a SW academic and a practitioner in the afternoon. If you can spare half a day, please let us know.

**Collaborating in research:**

Members of the SW team are actively engaged in research and are often looking for partners to collaborate in funding bids and research activity. If you are interested, please let us know. There are also opportunities within the University for you to develop your own research skills and activity through our programme of Masters and Doctorates. Information is available on the BU website.

**Collaborating in practice learning:**

Supporting students in practice ranges from: offering a one day shadowing opportunity; supporting a 70 or 100 day placement within your team with an off-site qualified Practice Educator or by qualifying as a Practice Educator and assessing and supporting a student on placement. In collaboration with our partner agencies, we identify and support approximately 100 placements a year across both BA and MA qualifying programmes. If you would like to be involved, please let us know.

Placements run every September (70 day first placements for MA students and 100 day final placements for BA students) and at the end of January (70 day first placements for MA students and 100 day final placements for BA students). We can support these placements with off-site Practice Educators where necessary.

The following seminars, courses and workshops, identify the opportunities and support on offer regarding practice learning. Certificates of attendance are issued on request and all

can be used as evidence toward your CPD and evidencing your PEPS if you are a qualified Practice Educator.

**Course:**

**Delivered every July and December**

**Lansdowne Campus**

**Two day placement supervisor (PS) course**

For practitioners keen to support a student within their team but who are not qualified Practice Educators. The course is delivered twice a year (July and December) and is a requirement for placements that are supporting a student. Nb. The PS course can provide the foundation for practitioners progressing to 'Enabling work base learning' and 'Supervising a learner in practice' units delivered by BU's Centre for Post Qualifying SW which lead to the Practice Educator qualification. Preference will be given to allocating students to placements where the PS has successfully completed (or is completing) 'Part A Enabling work based learning' which is open to all practitioners including non-social workers and unqualified workers.

**Placement link days:**

**Two per placement** (10 – 1 if supporting a first placement student and 1 – 4 if supporting a final year student)

**Lansdowne Campus**

For Practice Educators and placement supervisors who are currently providing placements. The half day sessions provide support and guidance on working with a student and CPD input regarding the assessment of practice.

**Skills for practice workshops:**

**Lansdowne campus**

A series of one day workshops will run throughout the academic year for SW students but with a number of places being made available for Practice Educators and practitioners who are supporting students in practice.

Safeguarding adults: every December

Safeguarding children: every December

Communicating with children: TBC

**World café events**

**EBC**

We aim to run 6 events a year in partnership with our local authority partners. Some are aimed at children's social care, some at adults and some are combined

**Contacts:** If interested in discussing any of the opportunities, please contact your workforce development unit or the University direct via Dr Mel Hughes

[mhughes@bournemouth.ac.uk](mailto:mhughes@bournemouth.ac.uk)

To book a place on any of the above seminars / courses, please contact Fiona Cusack

[fcusack@bournemouth.ac.uk](mailto:fcusack@bournemouth.ac.uk)